

# 6 p.m. Friedman Center

Puppet Show by The Puppet Players Candlelighting Latke Buffet Dinner Dreidels & Gelt

To RSVP see the form on page 19.

IN THIS ISSUE...

Rabbi's Remarks Events & Announcements December Calendar New Members Book Discussion Series & eScrip Report Memo from Jerusalem Melissa's Musings SCUSY Stuff Chaverim Events & Classes President's Page page 3 page 4 page 5 page 6 page 6 page 7 page 7 page 8 page 8 page 9

Mitzvah Moments	page 10
Literary Lines	page 10
Nursery School News	page 11
Generous Contributions	page 12
December Yahrzeits	page 13
Kvell With Us!	page 13
Jewish Community Events	page 14
Religious School Mitzvah Project	page 15
Advertisements	pages 15-19
Event RSVP Form	page 19
December Services	back page

<b>Congreg</b> 4676 Mayette Santa Rosa, C Telephone: Fax: Email: Website:			Hours of Operation Beth Ami Main Office Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 10 a.m 4 p.m. Tuesday: 10 a.m 6 p.m. Library Monday - Thursday: 2 - 6 p.m. Sunday: 9 a.m 12:30 p.m. Gift Shop Tuesday: 3-5 p.m. Thursday: 11 a.m 1 p.m. Sunday: 10 a.m 12:30 p.m.
Personn	el		Officers and Board of
Rabbi George		360-3004	Directors 2008-2009
rabbi@bethami Melissa Bloom execdirec@beth	, Executive Director	360-3011	President, Patty Bernstein, basberyl@sonic.net VP Administration, Susan Kleinbort, sbcooperdds@
Rick Concoff,	Chaverim Director	823-3916	hotmail.com
concoff@yahoo	o.com an, Religious School Assistant	360 3000	<i>VP Facilities</i> , <b>David Ballo</b> , david_ballo@agilent.com <i>VP Facilities</i> , <b>Bonnie Boren</b> , bonniegboren@gmail.com
rs@bethamisr.o		300-3000	VP Youth and Education, Jane Rogan,
Karen Gould,		360-3000	jane@summit-sr.com
newsletter@bet Elizabeth Jarls	sberg, Adminstrative Support	360-3000	<i>Treasurer</i> , <b>Henry Cohn</b> , henry_s_cohn@yahoo.com <i>Secretary</i> , <b>Mark Rosen</b> , (860) 202-8953
office@betham	isr.org		Adult Education and Programming, Al Batzdorff,
Sharon Krusch Sharon@pacbe	hen, USY Advisor ll.com	478-2663	abatz@sonic.net
Bookkeeper		360-3012	<i>Library Committee</i> , <b>Susanne Batzdorff</b> , sbatz@sonic.net
bookkeeper@b Gabor Por, Lil		849-7682	Membership Committee, Richard Kahn,
library@bethan	nisr.org		earthin@sonic.net
	Helen Margolese, Gift Shop Nursery School Director	360-3022 360-3030	Nursery School Liaison, Birgit Sacher, teamsacher@sbcglobal.net
ns@bethamisr.c	org		Religious Practices Committee, Susan Miller,
	Friedman Center Director eventcenter.com	360-3021	nursesue@sonic.net
Ũ			Nancy Daniels, contact@sonic.net Fredrika Gross, fredrika@pacbell.net
	at 360-3000 to leave a message ny, Torah/Haftarah Readings	for:	Barbara McGee, barbara.mcgee@ffic.com
	tt, Catering Director		Past President, Andy Fleming, andyflem@gmail.com
	govin, Kitchen Manager		Rabbi George Schlesinger, Member Ex Officio, rabbi@bethamisr.org
Edythe Smi	ith, Invitations, 538-3698		Melissa Bloom,
			Member Ex Officio, execdirec@bethamisr.org
Through celebr we seek to enrice help heal the w <b>Congregatic</b> A vibrant, grow the joys of Jewi relevant to the oprospering cong	on Beth Ami Mission State ation, learning, prayer and comm ch our lives, transform our hearts yorld and sustain our Jewish herit on Beth Ami Vision ving campus for Jewish living wh ish values and rituals are made ac everyday lives of our members. gregation enjoying the wholehear id involvement of all our membe	nunity, s, age. here ccessible and A flourishing, rted support,	<b>Deadline for January Shofar: December 15</b> All editorial submissions must be received in the <i>Shofar</i> box in the Beth Ami office or via email on or before the deadline. All <b>submissions are subject to editing for clarity, brevity and</b> <b>content.</b> Please submit articles as Microsoft Word documents via email attachments. Contact Karen Gould, Editor, at 360-3000 or at newsletter@bethamisr.org with corrections, concerns or ques- tions. The <i>Shofar</i> is a periodical issued monthly except for a combined June & July issue. It is published by Congregation Beth Ami, 4676 Mayette Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95405. All members in good standing receive the periodical free. Yearly subscriptions are
			\$25.00. This month's issue is: Volume 14, Issue 4 Issue Date: December 1, 2008



### **RABBI'S REMARKS** Rabbi George Schlesinger

This year, Chanukah coincides with Christmas, and as such, it often creates difficulties for Jewish parents wishing to provide clear distinctions for their children between the two holidays. All too often, the local shopkeepers seem prone to call Chanukah the "Jewish Christmas." That is, of course, if they are even aware of Chanukah. Having the two holidays coincide is often a difficult for Jewish parents as it forces them to celebrate Chanukah at same time as the rest of the world celebrates its important day and it makes it difficult to separate what is "ours" from what is "theirs."

Of course, the two holidays couldn't be more different in their meaning and purpose, and attempts to blur those distinctions are unfortunate at best and destructive at worst. Christmas is the day celebrating the birth of the "founder" of Christianity. (In reality, it was probably Paul who had more to do with the founding of Christianity than anyone else, and it was Paul who was probably most responsible for the schism between Judaism and Christianity.) As such, Christmas is one of the two most important days in the Christian calendar. The other is Easter. Jesus is, of course, believed to be divine and is believed to have been God's chosen son to be given as a sacrifice to atone for the world's sins. While we could debate that theology for a long time (and many have over the millennia), it is important to recognize how Chanukah differs.

Chanukah is considered a minor holiday; nowhere is it mentioned in the Bible. In fact, other than the reference to the miracle of the oil mentioned in the Talmud, the only way we know about the events is that the Catholic Church saved the Books of Maccabees in the compilation known as the Apocrypha.

Perhaps, a little background would be important. After the Persians defeated the Babylonians in the 6<sup>th</sup> century BCE, the Jews were allowed to return to Judea and rebuild their homeland. And rather than impose Persian rule over all the conquered land, the Persian kings allowed each of the conquered peoples to maintain their own set of laws as the law of their particular land. So within Israel, Jewish law was considered official "Persian" Empire law. This was a tactic that kept many of the conquered peoples content with the situation.

The Persians were subsequently defeated by Alexander the Great, and when he died, his empire was divided among three of his generals. One ruled over Macedonia and the Greek Peninsula. One general, Ptolemy, was granted sovereignty over Egypt and Africa, and the third, Seleucus, was given sovereignty over Syria and the northern lands of the Fertile Crescent. Israel was, of course, caught between the Egyptian Ptolemies and the Syrian Seleucids, and it was a frequent battleground.

But for many years, the custom of allowing each people to abide by their own laws remained in effect. All this changed under the rule of a new king. At the end of the year 167 BCE, approximately in December, by order of Antiochus IV Epiphanes, King of Syria and so ruler of the Jews, the Temple on Zion was desecrated and given over to the uses of idolatry.

In the attempt to Hellenize the entire empire, the Jews were to be prevented from worshipping as they wished; they would be forced to be like everyone else. And while some Jews welcomed the opportunity to assimilate into the greater culture, there were those who staunchly refused to succumb to the temptations and who insisted upon the restoration of the proper Temple worship. At first, the war was a civil war between the two factions within the Jewish people, but soon it spread to include the Syrian/Hellenized forces. It was Judah's victory over the Syrians that we celebrate. The Jews were once again permitted to worship in the traditional manner as they had since the time of Moses.

Clearly, then, the message of Chanukah is vastly different than the message of Christmas. Christmas celebrates the birth of Jesus while Chanukah celebrates our struggle to worship God as we saw fit...in effect, it celebrates our right to be different.

So while Chanukah might be a minor holiday in the scope of Jewish celebrations, it does, however, have a great significance in the history of the world. It is the first recorded war for religious freedom. We have records from many different ancient struggles. We can read of the conquests of ancient Egypt, the Hittite empire, the Philistines, the Assyrians, Babylonians, Greeks, Romans, and even the ancient Israelites. Most of those accounts deal with the acquisition of land, conquest, and expansion. Chanukah is the first to deal with the right of one person and one group to worship God in the manner of their choosing. Perhaps there had been previous wars fought for religious freedom; we don't know. The point is that the first such recorded struggle was the fight of the Maccabees under Mattathias and Judah.

The Books of Maccabees (which were contemporary accounts) make no mention of the miracle of the oil. That comes only much later in the Talmud when the victories are attributed solely to God and Judah (and the military victory) is completely removed from the story. In the Talmud and in our Siddur, the only notice taken about the war and its aftermath is that God fought on the side of righteousness against the sinners. And after God won the battle for us, we had the task of cleaning up the Temple and restoring the proper sacrificial service.

What is truly significant for us today, is that Chanukah commemorates our struggle to preserve our way of life, to preserve our unique way of worshipping God, to preserve the Jewish heritage. If we take on the trappings of the Christmas season, if we give in to the materialism of the day, if we forget the true struggle of the Maccabees, then we will have given up all for which they fought and died.

I hope and trust that when you light your holiday candles each night during Chanukah, you will remember the true meaning of Chanukah and the reason for the holiday.

Chag Urim Same'ach!





#### Tobah Rabah

To our friends at Beth Ami:

We want to thank all of you who have been so kind and feeling for us in our losses, first Lou and then Norm.

It's a warm feeling to know that we are not alone. As you can imagine, the loss has been great, but your caring has helped ease the pain.

Thanks so much, Evey and Deana Abramowitz and family

#### Mazal tov to:

♦ Jill Tager, Nursery School teacher, and Jean Goulart, Nursery School Director, on





the birth of their grandsons. Sharon Benson, SCUSY Advisor,

and Douglas Kruschen on their recent marriage.

#### The Beth Ami community offers sincere condolences to:

Arlene Rosenbaum and her family on the death of her mother, Florence Holtzman Rosenbaum.

• Greg & Birgit Sacher on the death of Greg's grandmother, Hermione Schmaman.

♦ Ariella and Michael Radwin and their families on the death of Michael's father, Mark Radwin.

#### **Pancake Breakfast** Sunday, December 7 at 9 a.m. Please see RSVP form on page 19.



# Working together to help our community... we **can** make a diffe

Living on a Fixed Income: What Do You Do? Thursday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. – noon

*How do I prioritize my spending? What do I do when my* kids ask for money? What if my money runs out?

Sanford Bressick, Registered Investment Advisor \*\*

\* Paula Shatkin, Licensed Clinical Social Worker Jewish Family and Children's Services presents this seminar at Congregation Beth Ami to help you understand and deal with the current economic crisis through the Jewish Emergency Assistance Network (JEAN).

Co-sponsored by JCC, Sonoma County Friendship Circle program and Congregation Beth Ami.

RSVP to JFCS at 571-8131. If you or someone you care about needs help, call us at 571-8131.

# Mazal tov to our Bat Mitzvah



NATASHA NETT **DECEMBER 13, 2008** 16 KISLEV 5769

Hi, my name is Natasha Nett. I have been a member of Beth Ami all of my life. I will become a Bat Mitzvah on December 13, 2008. I'm in 7th grade and attend Santa

Rosa Middle School. I love animals, music and art, and I enjoy reading good books. I also enjoy writing short stories in my free time. When I am not doing these things, I love to spend time with all my friends. I have enjoyed every second I have spent at Beth Ami, and I am looking forward to many more. I hope you will join us in celebrating my Bat Mitzvah.

#### Ongoing programs at **Congregation Beth Ami**

♦ ISRAELI FOLK DANCING, Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Friedman Center. For more info contact Leanne Schy at 528-4874 or Leanne@sonic.net.

♦ BIBLE STUDY WITH RABBI SCHLESINGER, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

♦ TORAH & TALMUD STUDY WITH RABBI SCHLESINGER, Thursdays, 7 p.m. Friedman Center Board Room



#### **Chesed (lovingkindness)** Committee

Connecting with members in time of need and celebration. Would you like to be part of our committee dedicated to the

well being of our synagogue members? We will establish a phone tree to supplement the cybershul emails; maybe we'll just call to stay in touch. We may offer a ride, help make a meal or visit a homebound member. You can also be part of our team by informing us if you know someone who needs help and has not asked for it.

Please contact Bernice Fox at 539-6031 or Roz Edelson at 576-7775 if you would like to join with us in our effort to make Congregation Beth Ami truly a caring community.

December 2008	2008				November 2008 Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	January 2009 <u>Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat</u> 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 33 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
Sunday 30	Monday 1 6:30pm Chaverim 9th	Tuesday 2 10:30am Hebrew-Beg. 4:00pm Religious School 7:00pm Israeli Folk Dancing	Wednesday 3 10:00am Book Group	Thursday 4 10:30am Hebrew-Int. 6:30pm Chaverim 11th/12th 7:00pm Torah Study	Friday 5 6:00pm Shabbat Dinner 7:30pm Shabbat Services	Saturday 6 9:30am Shabbat Services 12:30pm Potuck luncheon 7:30pm Chaverim Dance
7 9:00am Pancake Breakfast 9:30am Religious School 11:00am Adult B'nai Mitzvah	8 6:30pm Chaverim 10th	9 10:30am Hebrew-Beg. 4:00pm Religious School 7:00pm Israeli Folk Dancing	10	11 10:30am JEAN workshop 10:30am Hebrew-Int. 6:30pm Chaverim 8th grade 7:00pm Talmud Study	12 7:30pm Shabbat Services	13 Natasha Nett Bat Mitzvah 9:30am Shabbat Services 12:30pm Hosted iuncheon
14 9:30am Religious School 11:00am Adult B'nai Mitzvah 1:00pm Bible by the Bay	15 Shofar Deadline 6:30pm Chaverim 9th	16 10:30am Hebrew-Beg. 4:00pm Religious School 7:00pm Israeli Folk Dancing	17	18 10:30am Hebrew-Int. 6:00pm CBA Chanukah Party	19 7:30pm Shabbat Services	20 9:30am Shabbat Services 10:00am Jr. Congregation 10:00am Tot Shabbat 12:30pm Potluck luncheon
21 No Religious School 11:00am Adult B'nai Mitzvah	22	23 No Religious School 10:30am Hebrew-Beg. 7:00pm Israeli Folk Dancing	24	25	26 7:30pm Shabbat Services	27 9:30am Shabbat Services 12:30pm Potluck luncheon
28 No Religious School 11:00am Adult B'nai Mitzvah		30 No Religious School 10:30am Hebrew-Beg. 7:00pm Israeli Folk Dancing	31	Ţ	2	m
4	μ	Q	2	∞	σ	10

New Member News



Dave Ballo

Welcome to our new members: Ina Price and her daughter, Jessica Chelsie Berdux and Erik Uriarte

**Chelsie Berdux** and **Erik Uriarte** met in 2003 when Chelsie's parents moved to Las Vegas, leaving her without a home to celebrate Pesach. She decided to attend the seder at the Sonoma State Hillel, where she struck up a conversation with Erik. They enjoyed each other's company, exchanged phone numbers, became friends, dated, and eventually became engaged to one another. They plan to get married sometime in 2010. Chelsie was born in Mission Viejo, where she attended a Jewish nursery school. When she was 10 years old, her family moved to Penngrove. After graduating from Maria Carillo High School in 2000, she started taking classes at SRJC and SSU. Chelsie earned a certificate in Massage Therapy earlier this year from the National Holistic Institute in Petaluma, whereafter she started a private practice as a massage therapist.

Erik was born in Los Angeles and moved to Santa Rosa with his family also when he was 10 years old. His father is from Nicaragua, and his mother is of Russian/Polish descent. He credits his maternal grandparents for the example and encouragement of living a Jewish life. Erik graduated from Piner High School in 1996, and then enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He served for three and a half years in Okinawa, Japan, and at Camp Pendleton in southern California. He rediscovered his Jewish roots while in the Marine Corps, and regularly attended (and often led) Friday night services. He currently works as a marketing representative for **GoalView**, a company that develops software tools for school districts to manage their special-education programs. Long term, Erik is interested in becoming a military chaplain/rabbi.

Chelsie and Erik both love the wine and food opportunities in Sonoma County. When not cooking, eating out, wine tasting or spending time with family and friends, they enjoy playing a wide assortment of board, online, video and role-playing games.

#### Youth scholarships

Congratulations to the USYers who applied for and received CJEEF scholarships. Ethan Sherman and Jacob Kreger plan to attend regional USY conventions and Israeli-related programming. Haley Pleasant will use her scholarship to attend the USY National Convention in Washington DC later this month.

We look forward to hearing about their about their exciting exploits in the coming months. ~Mark Rosen, CJEEF Coordinator



#### The 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Book Discussion Series 2008-2009

A festive mood prevailed on November 5, when we met for the opening session of our 26<sup>th</sup> series. It was, of course, the day after Election Day, our topic was Barack Obama's autobiographical book, *Dreams of my Father*. Sylvia Sucher, our

discussion leader, brought a bottle of sparkling cider to toast the President-Elect, and we had a record attendance. We welcomed three new members, Anya and Gabor Por and our youngest member, baby Stella Jozefin. Even though we are a fairly well disciplined group, we had a hard time keeping to the topic, the book itself, and not straying into the field of politics and speculating about what the future will bring.

On December 3, Beverly Feldman will lead a discussion of *A Pigeon and a Boy*, by Meir Shalev.

New members, male or female, are always welcome. Come

#### eScrip Report - Thanks to our newest

# supporters: Melissa Bloom and Howard & Adrea Moss!



The results are in for the first nine months of 2008 ...our net contribution to Beth Ami from eScrip so far is **\$1686.24**. This compares to **\$872.27** in 2007, **\$1067.10** in 2006 and **\$879.13** in 2005. We appreciate all

active supporters who have contributed to this VERY easy fundraiser.

However there are so many of our members who are not participating in eScrip. Purchases are down, which is impacting our net contribution, so we need everyone even more. If you haven't signed up yet, go to www.eScrip. com and designate Congregation Beth Ami in Santa Rosa, **ID#136921119** to receive contributions. Then just register your Safeway club card, Macy's card and other credit or debit cards that you might use at participating merchants. If you would rather not sign up online, there is a sign-up form in the office as well as on our website. Just fill it out and return it to the office and we will sign you up. If you have misplaced your Safeway club card number, we can get it. All information will be kept confidential. Don't forget that if you are already signed up for eScrip with your school, you can split your contribution with Beth Ami. If you need help to sign up, contact Nancy Sherman at 538-9388 or enshermn@pacbell.net.



#### The last notes from the '08 Jerusalem trip

Our new "best friend" in Jerusalem is Ahuva Batz. The Ahuva fan club was thrilled to learn (about a week before we departed), that she has been invited to perform in March 2009, at the Madrid Sacred Music Festival. She will offer ritual melodies in Hebrew and Ladino; and has been asked to lead a Shabbat service at a Madrid synagogue. This is a real boost for her career.

Many of you will remember this marvelous cantorial soloist from her weekend at Beth Ami last December, when she electrified the congregation with her dramatic prayers and her expansive smiling personality.

Ahuva has made the Shabbat experience special for members and visitors alike at our Jerusalem home shul. We begin Friday evening about 20 minutes after the horns throughout the city announce the beginning of Shabbat. After a quick *Mincha* service, Ahuva introduces *Kabbalat Shabbat* with selected verses from *Shira haShirim*, Song of Songs. She then proceeds to a beautiful rendition of the Psalms and prayers for Friday evening.

The next morning, she regularly participates, leading one or more portions of the Shabbat morning service. Our rabbi, Adam Frank, has written:

"Ahuva's blend of powerful and poetic voice rhythms, and devotional integrity is unparalleled."

So, this is the last note I brought home from Jerusalem—a plug for our new "best friend." Refresh your memory and/ or learn more about her by logging on to her new website, <u>www.ahuvabatz.com.</u>

And, pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

### MELISSA'S MUSINGS

Melissa Bloom, Executive Director

#### Have you ever wanted to put an announcement out to the Beth Ami community via Cybershul?

Well this is how you can. A detailed announcement must be submitted to Melissa Bloom (execdirec@bethamisr.org) one week in advance. Cybershul goes out on Thursday morning of each week. So by 5 p.m. on the prior Thursday, all blurbs need to be submitted to me. Please note that these announcements are minimally edited so the person submitting has to provide all the details. In addition, Cybershul is not to replace the Shofar but is simply a reminder for our community and to get the word out if something last minute comes up.

#### Chanukah wish list for the office

- New laser printer
- An ergonomic chair
- Book shelves
- ► Love seat

#### **Changing faces**

Congregation Beth Ami would like to welcome **Darlene Frieman** as the new Religious School assistant. She is happy to help you with all of your Religious School and general office needs at Beth Ami.

November 14 was **Yaakov Mossman's** last day as our bookkeeper. Yaakov was with us for many years and we wish him only the very best in the future. We welcomed our new bookkeeper on November 1. She will be working remotely for Beth Ami from Los Angeles. The bookkeeper's extension and email will remain the same. Due to the fact that the bookkeeper is remote please understand that there will be at least a 24 hour response time.



copyright Debby Cooper

Thank you to Sinai Memorial Chapel Chevra Kadisha for their continued support of our Religious School. We appreciate their generosity.





SCUSY would like to welcome back our advisor, Sharon Benson from Florida where she recently got married! Mazal tov Sharon and Douglas. We are glad to have you back!

Our most recent event, Israeli movie night, went wonderfully! We watched You Don't Mess with the Zohan and ate Middle Eastern food from falafel to baklava. Thank you to everyone who attended!

Fall Kinnus on November 21-23 in Palo Alto was amazing, as always. It was co-chaired by SCUSY's own Haley Pleasant. The theme of the weekend was Judaism and the Arts: All You Need is New Fro. USYers learned about how Jewish values show up in different forms of art, and even created some tye-dye of their own! They did several programs revolving around art and music, including creating skits using lyrics from popular Beatles' songs.

SCUSYers attending ICDC, the international USY convention 2008, will be going to Washington, DC from December 21-25, with a post convention in Maryland from December 25-28. We will meet USYers from all over the USA and Canada, while learning about Judaism in our nation's capital! SCUSY will be sure to tell you about it when we get back.

SCUSY's next event is our Chanukah Chill! It will be on December 14. Additional details are available at our website. www.scusynf.com.

#### **Chaverim Monte Carlo Night**

What: A fun night of casino games such as Texas Hold'em, Craps, Blackjack, Roulette. There will also be Yahtzee and other games of chance.

We'll have great prizes and snacks.

No prior knowledge of how to play needed.

Who: 9th-12th grade Chaverim members. Also invited are non-Chaverim teens who are members of CBA or CST. (This is a high school only social event, this is not a fundraiser)

Where: Congregation Shomrei Torah When: Saturday, January 10, 2009 **Time:** 7:00-9:30 p.m. Cost: Chaverim members - no charge.

Non-Chaverim teens pay \$10 each. RSVP a must!

**RSVP** to chaveriminfo@ yahoo.com by January 5. For more info call Barbara Rosenthal at 838-8853 or Rick Concoff at 823-3916



Chaverim is a beneficiary of the Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin and Sonoma Counties

#### December 2008 - January 2009

#### **CHAVERIM SOCIAL EVENTS** CHAVERIM CLASSES Saturday, December 6: DANCE 8th grade: CBA: Thursday, December 11 High School only CST: January 15 & 29 7:30-10:30 p.m. at CBA 9th grade: CBA: Monday, December 1 & 15 Sunday, December 14: CHOPS CST: January 5 8th grade only 1:30-4 p.m. 10th grade: CBA: Monday, December 8 Saturday, January 10: MONTE CARLO NIGHT High School only 11th & 12th grade: 7-9:30 p.m. at CST CST: January 8 & 22 Saturday, January 24 BINGO and Dinner and Bake Sale Fundraiser at Congregation Beth Ami. All Chaverim plus family and friends 5:30-8:30 p.m. at CST

**Congregation Beth Ami (CBA) Congregation Shomrei Torah (CST)**  CST: January 12 & 26 CBA: Thursday, December 4

Chaverim Dinner/ Discussions in **December 2008 meet** 

Beginning in January 2009 ALL Dinner/Discussions will meet at Congregation Shomrei Torah (CST) from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Please be on time!



#### Moving ahead by looking behind

We have just experienced one of the most momentous US Presidential campaigns and elections in our history, with scenarios that could not even have been imagined by our founding fathers. (Our founding mothers, maybe.) Whether or not you were an Obama supporter, you must have been moved by the words of his acceptance speech: "If there is anyone out there who still doubts that America is a place where all things are possible...who still questions the power of our democracy, tonight is your answer."

That really made me think about what I was experiencing. What a long way we have come. How many courageous people and culture-shaking events contributed to my being able to witness such a moment!

On the Shabbat after the election, I attended the Bat Mitzvah ceremony of Andrea Bornstein, a lovely, thoughtful, and considerate young lady whose grandparents were among the fortunate ones rescued from the Holocaust. Throughout her time on the bimah, Andrea referenced her grandparents' courage and faith, the importance of family, and the necessity to perform righteous acts. I was so moved that she'd built her special day around honoring those who came before her those whose survival had made that day and that celebration possible.

There's quite a lesson for me, for all of us, in these two vignettes, I think. It's that it's not "all about me." Each of us is standing on the shoulders of the ones who came before. We're here, doing what we're doing because of what they did ... maybe even because of the faith they had that we'd continue the work.

When I addressed the congregation on Yom Kippur, I referenced the number of people who had served as president of our congregation since its establishment in 1943. It's quite a register! Evelyn Gurevitch patiently went through her extensive histories and wrote each name in long-hand for me. My transcription is at the end of my article. I'd appreciate any help in filling in blanks or correcting misspellings. I intend to "flesh out" the list and follow up on Sheyna Bakman's suggestion that these people get proper recognition. After all, Congregation Beth Ami is here for us today because of their efforts and dedication.

After the flurry of the High Holy Days, I received a letter from someone else who also merits recognition and who will lead me on another quest. Rabbi Leo Treppe became our congregation's first rabbi in 1951 and stayed with us for ten years, when he was recognized as our founding rabbi and granted honorary lifetime membership. How had I not known that? Though I knew that Rabbi Jonathan Slater was not Beth Ami's first rabbi, I was clueless about our history. I hope that Rabbi Treppe, who is living in San Francisco now, will, once again, honor us with his presence at Beth Ami so that we might honor him.

And speaking of honoring ... kudos to the Rosh Chodesh women of Beth Ami for putting a recognition "Chai Tea" together on November 23 to honor the matriarchs of our congregation with the theme of "L'Dor Va Dor." It was only fitting that some of our younger congregants, ages 10-70, interviewed and connected generation to generation with 27 Beth Ami matriarchs (defined by their reaching the age of 80 years and beyond) in preparation for the event. May we benefit from their wisdom as they continue to live long and thrive.

To all who have served before me, to all those shoulders I stand on ... todah rabah. May G-d continue to bless you.

#### Congregation Beth Ami Past Presidents 1943 - Present

1943	Joe	Blum	1975	Harriet	Macht
1944	Fred	Rosenberg	1976	Mary	Kronen
1945	Jules	Levine	1977	Maurice	Brenner
1946	Si	Harris	1978	Ben	Friedman
1947	Dave	Rosenberg	1979	Saul	Rosenthal
1948			1980	Allan	Meltzer
1949	Irving	Klein	1981	Allan	Meltzer
1950	Harry	Harris	1982	Arnie	Rosenfield
1951	Herb	Couzins	1983	Arnie	Rosenfield
1952	Herb	Goldfarb	1984	Werner	Berg
1953	Harry	Rubin	1985	Werner	Berg
1954	Herb	Couzins	1986	Cynthia	Wexler
1954	Leo	Gurevitch	1987	Joel (J.R	.) Rubin
1955	Leo	Gurevitch	1988	Jon	Batzdorff
1956	Leo	Gurevitch	1989	Paul	Zygielbaum
1956	Harry	Rubin	1990	Paul	Zygielbaum
1957	George	Firestone	1991	Al	Batzdorff
1958	Lou	Janoslovsky	1992	Al	Batzdorff
1959			1993	Al	Batzdorff
1960	Harry	Rubin	1994	Mike	Mundell
1961	Irving	Klein	1995	Mike	Mundell
1962	Irving	Klein	1996	David	Ballo
1963	John	Brown	1997	David	Ballo
1964	George	Firestone	1998	Henry	Cohn
1965	Morris	Feldman	1999	Henry	Cohn
1966	Louis	Menachof	2000	Ron	Welch
1966	Bud	Shepard	2001	Ron	Welch
1967	David	Spencer	2002	Arlene	Rosenbaum
1967	John	Brown	2003	Arlene	Rosenbaum
1968			2004	Jon	Simkovitz
1969	Marvin	Hyman	2005	Jon	Simkovitz
1970			2006	Andy	Fleming
1971	Gerald	Boas	2007	Andy	Fleming
1972	Harry	Friedman	2008	Andy	Fleming
1973	Harry	Friedman	2009	Patty	Bernstein
1974	Dennis	Doherty			
		-			



#### Chanukah, Tzdakah and Tikkun Olam

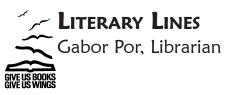
The Chanukiah's lights remind us we are called to be "a light to the nations." It's possible to do tikkun olam, and give gifts *and* tzdakah at the same time, even in this tight economy.

**"Think outside the box,"** especially for people who have everything, but also for kids. While they generally want tangible gifts, try making one of their gifts a form of tzadakah. For \$10 or less, give a gift that doesn't use wrapping paper, packaging, or have shipping costs. Order at secure online sites or toll-free numbers, and get printable or email gift cards or gift certificates.

- Trees for Life® International. Plant 10, 30, or 50 fruit trees for \$1.00 each in a developing country or give other gifts, such as efficient cook stoves that save wood and lives. Go to www.treesforlife.org/ or call 316-945-6929.
- GreaterGood Network's "Gifts that Give More," priced from \$1 to more than \$100, fund hunger, breast cancer prevention, child health, literacy, rainforest preservation, and animal rescue— tailor your giving to the recipient's interests. Help more by sending free email cards and clicking daily on all the sites. Buy products, too, and get free shipping if you also buy a "Gift that Gives More." Go to www.hungersite.com/ or call 888-355-4321.
- Heifer International® has great alternative gifts, starting at \$10. Give a farm animal (or a share of one), flocks of poultry, and other gifts to help people achieve self-sufficiency. Heifer's approach includes training and support for recipients and the requirement to "pass on the gift" to someone else, by giving them an animal when theirs reproduces. Go to www.heifer.org/ or call 800-422-0474.

# Tikkun Olam—Remember those who will get little or nothing this year.

- The Living Room, Santa Rosa's daytime drop-in shelter for homeless women and children, needs gifts by December 12<sup>th</sup>; go to <u>www.thelivingroomsc.org/</u> for their wish list. They also need wrapping paper, scotch tape, ribbons, bows, and volunteers to help with wrapping gifts. Call Carole Keiner at 546-7745 with questions about gifts or 591-5490 to volunteer.
- Redwood Empire Food Bank's Holiday Food Drive runs until January 31. Their goal is 185,000 lbs. of food and \$160,000. They serve 60,000 low-income families monthly. Drop food in barrels at Beth Ami and local stores.
- P'kuach Nefesh—save a life. Give blood; the need is great right now. Call 545-1222 for blood bank hours.



This year, Jewish Book Month starts November 22 and ends December 22. We challenge you to celebrate it by coming into the library, picking up a book that interests you and rediscover the joy you can get from reading. As always, we are here to help you, providing reference service, answering questions, and directing you to books on the topic you are looking for. We are also happy to announce that our DVD collection now contains over 30 movies, all related to Jews, Judaica and/or Israel.

We also have a treat waiting for you this month. Frances Dinkelspiel will come and speak about the research behind her book, *Towers of Gold: How One Jewish Immigrant Named Isaias Hellman Created California.* The book is just as intriguing as its title! If you've never heard of Hellman, the great-great-grandfather of the book's author, you are not alone. Had you lived a hundred years ago in California though, you probably would have been alone. Hellman arrived to Los Angeles from Germany in 1859 with almost nothing. He founded and developed Wells Fargo Bank and two other major banks. Some of his other accomplishments include leading the construction of Los Angeles' first synagogue, donating the land for the University of Southern California, and serving as Regent of the University of California for 38 years.

If this intrigues you as it does me, please come to Ms. Dinkelspiel's lecture mid-December. The date and time are being finalized as this goes to print!

This month we are happy to report on our new books related to Kabbalah and spirituality:

- Gershom Scholem: *Zohar, The Book of Splendor* The greatest authority on Jewish mysticism culled selected passages from the Zohar on the wonders of creation, soul, love, suffering and death, exile, and redemption.
- Daniel C. Matt: The Essential Kabbalah You can find the most important tenets of Kabbalah topics including G-d as infinity, Sefirot, mystical nothingness, alphabet, creation, meditation, and revelation.
- Jerry Winston: *Colors from the Zohar* Amazing poetry inspired by (and expounding upon) the Zohar in a beautifully designed book.
- Aryeh Kaplan: *Meditation and the Bible* A radical interpretation of the Bible demonstrating the methods of meditation used by the Prophets to attain their unique states of consciousness.
- Estelle Frankel: *Sacred Therapy* Frankel uses biblical, Hasidic, Talmudic and kabbalistic traditions to shape her thesis: healing begins with brokenness and leads to transformation, wholeheartedness and renewal.

OUR CATALOG AND BLOG ARE ONLINE AT HTTP://WWW.BETHAMISR.ORG/LIBRARY.

© Copyright Tish Levee, 2008. All rights reserved

# BETH AMI COMMUNITY NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS



Jean Goulart, Director

#### Hollywood Beth Ami style was happening!

I wish to express my gratitude and appreciation to all our guests, our congregation and donors for making our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary/ Fall Fundraiser a success. Our Parent Committee: second year parents **Carrie Marvin and Julia Zimmer;** along with first year parents **Jessica Sutton and Laurie Proctor**; as well as other parent volunteers created a great production and presented a marvelous red carpet event. The evening featured a multitude of auction items; a special premiere DVD of our current Nursery School students, produced and directed by Jonathan and Carrie Marvin; a commemorative wine glass for our guests; and a tribute to our founders and teachers.

I hope you all celebrated a joyous Thanksgiving. My youngest grandchild, Xavier Kane Rudy was born two weeks early on November 12 at 3:30 a.m. I am a proud grandmother of one granddaughter and three grandsons between the ages of two years to three weeks old. Last year my third grandchild was born the day after Thanksgiving.

The teachers are preparing for Chanukah. The Nursery School will smell of latkes soon. The Parent Committee will be hosting a Family Potluck Chanukah Party on Thursday, December 18 at 5 p.m. and the students and teachers will celebrate during school hours on Friday, December 19. The Nursery School will be closed for winter break from December 20, 2008 through January 4, 2009.

May love and light fill your home and heart at Chanukah and throughout the coming year.

#### Chanukah wish list

#### Two's Class

- ★ 2 child gates
- ★ 1 large bag of sand
- ★ Small baby slings to carry dolls

#### Three's & Four's Class

- ★ Dust buster
- ★ Small gardening tools
- ★ Paper sorter
- ★ Sheer fabric (about 3 yards)
- ★ Small plastic baking mats
- $\star$  Realistic plastic animals
- ★ Hardcover books
- ★ Fish food
- ★ Junk: spools, buttons, ribbon, stickers,wood scraps, corks, etc.
- ★ Medium size Tonka type trucks
- ★ Nails

- ★ Small tools/hammers
- ★ Round rug, 60-67" diameter
- ★ Dot-A-Dot Art markers
- ★ Musical instruments (bells, tambourine, from other countries)
- ★ Empty yogurt containers for paint
- ★ Canon Selphy Easy Printer Photo packE-P100/Ink & Paper
- ★ Clear bead door hanging (will use on window for light refraction)
- ★ CD's (classical, folk, your family or child's favorite) copies okay

Congregation Beth Ami Judaica Gift Shop

Everything you need for Chanukah! Games, cookies, dreidels, menorahs, gelt, candles, party decorations, wrapping paper, books, cards, gifts, and more!



DECEMBER HOURS: Tuesday 3 - 5 pm Thursday 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Sunday 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. ~ call Helen, 539-5357 or Susy, 523-3252, for an appointment ~ The Gift Shop appreciates your generous support. rs,wood scraps, corks,



# **Generous Contributions to our Congregation**

The next time you are looking for a meaningful way to celebrate a joyous occasion,

remember a loved one, or comfort a mourner, please consider a donation to

Congregation Beth Ami. When you make a gift, a card is send to the honoree or the family and your

donation is proudly acknowledged in the Shofar.

The minimum donation for each occasion is \$7.50. Congregation Beth Ami truly appreciates your support.

#### CJEEF

In honor of the birthdays of Susan Kleinbort, Judi Rosenthal, Richard Kahn, Rabbi Schlesinger, Judy Gunnar, Leo Gurevitch, Lillian Judd, Rick Concoff. Lisa Gottreich Mark Rosen In honor of Lillian Judd's 85th birthday Sylvia Sucher **GENERAL FUND** In appreciation of Lauren Kalmanson and the wonderful Tot Rosh Hashanah service The Tomin & Kaplan families In memory of Lester Schweit Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Jones Edvthe Smith In memory of my father, Arnold Gross Sylvia Sucher In memory of Vivian Frye In memory of Lester Schweit Jon & Rose Batzdorff Get well wishes to Nancy Daniel's father In memory of Greg Sacher's grandmother, Hermione Schmaman Thank you to all the Torah readers over the High Holy Days Happy marriage to our beloved SCUSY advisor, Sharon Benson & Douglas Kruschen In memory of Vivian Frye and Natalie Weil The Ballo Family In honor of Evey Abramowitz's special birthday The Wolf-Root Family In memory of Lester Schweit and Max Linson Helene Cohen In memory of Vivian Frye, Ben Friedman, Lester Schweit Marcia Shainsky Thank you to Mark Rosen for all you do In memory of Vivian Frye, Lester Schweit Fredrika & Brian Gross In memory of Albert Sherman Ed & Nancy Sherman & Family In memory of Natalie Weil **Phyllis Posner** 

In memory of Vivian Frye **Cvnthia Wexler** In appreciation of Sheyna Bakman's love for us Barbara Tomin A thoughtful donation Ivan Barta In memory of Greg Sacher's grandmother, Hermione Schmaman Judi Rosenthal Happy Birthday to Harry Friedman Edith Newman In memory of my mother, Dora Schiffman **Bernice** Fox In honor of Natalie Friedman's birthday Pat Thomas In memory of my mother, Rose Shiffman In memory of my brother, Hans Shiffman Elsie Rich A generous donation John & Rhonda Rosenbach In memory of Moses Kobeiwitz Shirley Rosaler In memory of my father, Joseph Raful In memory of my mother, Mollie Raful **Bob** Raful In honor of Lillian Judd's birthday Bob & Susy Raful General – Potluck lunch fund

In memory of my brother, Norman Schloner and my father, Lester Schloner *Carol Swanson* 

LIBRARY FUND In memory of Phil Weil's mother Jane & Alan Krubiner In honor of Paul & Michelle Zygielbaum's anniversary Mark Rosen In memory of my sister, Anne Ludin Rosalie Schweit

MALK FUND In honor of Tad's aliyah for Rosh Hashanah – with love from Mom & Dad In memory of Paul Millhauser In memory of Phyllis' father, Max Malk In honor of Harry Friedman's 80th birthday In honor of the Matriarchs of Beth Ami *Phyllis & Everett Shapiro*  Happy Anniversary to Mr. & Mrs. Everett Shapiro *Edith Newman Carol Newman & Barry Sovel* 

NURSERY SCHOOL FUND Mazal Tov to Jill Tager on the arrival of her grandson *The Ballo Family* In honor of Joshua Proctor *Jack M. & Rose Ullman Foundation* In honor of Mike, Jessica & Emma Sutton *Priscilla & Joe Vivio* 

**RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND** In memory of Brucha Vilenskaya Malvina Tsipan In memory of my son, Greg Hyams Norma O'Brien In honor of Rabbi Schlesinger's inspired High Holy Days sermons Tish Levee In honor of the joy that Rabbi Schlesinger brought to Robin Rose's family Fredrika & Brian Gross A generous donation Phyllis & Everett Shapiro **Richard Kahn & Anne Brown** Claire Miller & David Kerben **Paul Lazovick** In honor of Rabbi Schlesinger's birthday In memory of my husband, Lev Bakman Sheyna Bakman In memory of Irv, my son and Dennis' brother Lillian Judd

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND In honor of Leah Kahn going to college *Richard Kahn & Anne Brown* In honor of Anne Mann, challah baker extraordinaire! *Sylvia Sucher* 



# **December Yahrzeits**

Secular dates correspond to Hebrew date of death Observance of yahrzeit begins at sundown the previous day All vahrzeits observed at Beth Ami

#### Announced on December 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>

December 7 Alma Shapiro Mother of Raynore Paule December 8 Kimberly Ellis Niece of Patricia Allison Howard Blau December 9 Father of Shari Kafton December 9 Miriam Malk Mother of Phyllis Shapiro December 9 Shirley Tenser Grandmother of Valerie Kreger and Mother of Dorothy Marder December 9 Isadore Wiesenthal Father of Natalie Friedman December 10 Rosa Bas Natan Mother of Evelyn Gurevitch December 10 Joaquin Boadella Father of Lillian Shelan Jennie Goldberg December 10 Mother of Betty Franks December 11 Jacob Goldman Father of Ethel Schy December 12 Leonard Dresser Husband of Helen Dresser December 13 Rochelle Adler Sister of Judith Dzik December 13 Stanley Kolman Father of Bruce Kolman December 13 Nina Nekrasova Daughter-in-law of Sheyna Bakman December 13 Raymond Nett Father of Stephen Nett Abraham Schwaber December 13 Father of Fredrika Gross

#### Announced on December 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>

December 15 George Kaplan Father of Rhonda Rosenbach December 16 Harry Friedman Grandfather of Jennifer Schilling December 17 Frances Ross Mother of Stuart Ross December 18 Ronald Friedman First husband of Jeanne Crump December 19 Esther Mazner Mother of Martin Mazner December 19 Pearl Monoson Mother of Rosalie Schweit

#### Announced on December 20<sup>th</sup> & 21st

Noah Minuskin December 22 Father of Joseph Minuskin December 23 Mary Minuskin Mother of Joseph Minuskin December 24 Patrick O'Brien Husband of Norma O'Brien December 25 Zahra Hazan Mother of Therese Becraft December 25 Cemen Nemchenko Brother of Sarah Tvutinman December 26 David Altaras Father of Ety Dranow December 27 Olive Cordill Mother of Kim Cordell

#### Announced on December 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>

December 29 Norman Mann Father of Anne Mann December 30 Rose Kovar Grandmother of Dr. Gary Herzberg January 1 Dean Fleming Father of Andy Fleming January 2 **Rachel Penkovich** Stepmother of Sarah Tyutinman

### Simcha Board Tree of Life



Honor thy mother...also thy aunt, uncle, cousin, child, best friend, teacher with an engraved leaf on our Simcha Board commemorating any joyous occasion, bestowal of an honor, or cause for thanksgiving. LEAF \$360 SMALL STONES \$1000 LARGE STONES \$2500

We also provide the opportunity for you to memorialize loved ones on our Yahrzeit Board. A plaque is \$450.

# **Kvell (rejoice)** with us!

#### **December Birthdays**

- Susan Brown 1 2 Anva Por 5 Ethan Glaubiger 5 Carol Zeidman 8 Julie Feingold 8 Ronald Shelan 9 Max Graff 13 Eleanor Cohen 14 Dr. Herbert Brosbe 14 Mark Epstein 14 Michael Kupperberg Michelle Glaubiger 16 Candice Mann 16 19 Patricia Allison 19 Shevna Bakman 19 Bruce Kolman 19 Marlene Lowenthal 19 Carolvn Metz 19 Dan Pleasant 20 Stanley Feingold
- Jonathan Cohen 21
- 21 Jerry Zenick
- 24 Natalie Friedman
- 25 Doris Langer
- 26 Joan Lubar
- **Robin Rose** 26
- 27 Fredrika Gross
- 27 Lindsay Kvam
- 29 Marilyn Sommer

#### **December Anniversaries**

- 5 Bill & Susie Friedman
- 7 Ben & Connie Goldman
- 9 Iosif & Marina Voulfson
- 10 Herb & Ellen Brosbe
- 18 Ron & Lillian Shelan
- 23 Howard & Adrea Moss
- 24 Jeff & Ety Dranow
- Daryl & Joan Schloss 25

# JEWISH COMMUNITY EVENTS

#### JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER, SONOMA COUNTY Jewish Film Festival

 ▲ Forgotten Refugees & Last Jews of Libya Tues., Dec. 2, 7:15 p.m., Petaluma Thurs., Dec. 4, 1 p.m. & 7:15 p.m., Santa Rosa
▲ Orthodox Stance Wed., December 3, 7:15 p.m., Sebastopol

▲ *The First Time I Was Twenty* Tues., Dec. 9, 7:15pm, Petaluma Thurs., Dec. 11, 1 p.m. & 7:15 p.m., Santa Rosa

Call the JCC at 528-4222 for tickets.

Rialto Cinemas Lakeside, Santa Rosa West Boulevard Cinemas, Petaluma West Sebastopol Cinema





Are you curious about Jewish Meditation and mysticism? Now is your chance to find out what it's all about. **The JCC December Meditation Retreat is just weeks away**-ALL ARE

WELCOME to join us for an incredible weekend of Jewish mysticism, storytelling, chant,

meditation, and yoga.

For more information contact Sheila at 528-4222 or email sheilak@jccsoco.org.

The Jewish Community Center, Sonoma County presents... Friendship Circle Hanukkah Party Monday, December 8



- 11:30 a.m. Shopping & Schmoozing
- 12:15 p.m. Latke Buffet Lunch
- 12:45 p.m. Candlelighting

1:00 p.m. Entertainment Lisa Iskin on guitar

#### **Luncheon Details**

**The party will be at** Congregation Shomrei Torah. The fee for this special event is \$10 for members and \$12 for non-members and includes lunch and dessert. Payment is accepted at the door. Reservations are required no later than Thursday, November 28<sup>th</sup> (so that we shouldn't run out of latkes). Call Fran Danoff at the JCC, Friendship Circle office, 528-1476 to reserve.

#### Bible by the Bay, Sunday, December 14, 1-5 p.m.

Congregation Shomrei Torah, 2600 Bennett Valley Road Keynote Speaker, Professor Rachel Adler, author of the *The Jew Who Wasn't There*, will speak on *Love, Loyalty and Loathing: Biblical Unions through the Lens of Gender.* 

Following the keynote there will be a variety of workshops on biblical themes led by prominent Bay Area scholars, clergy and Lehrhaus Judaica's master teachers. Workshops leaders include: Rabbi Alan Lew, Dr. Marcia Falk, Rachel Brodie, Professor Fred Astren, Rachel Biale, Dr. Donny Inbar, Ken Cohen.

For more information go to www.lehrhausjudaica.com

#### The River Choir directed by Sonia Tubridy presents

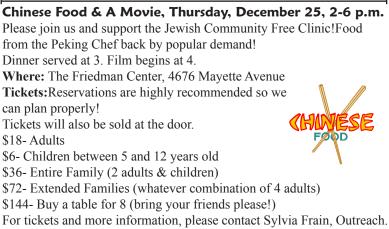
Let It Shine – Sunday, December 14, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. Vivaldi's Gloria Sing Along – Sunday, January 4, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

**Concert information**: Guerneville Community Church, 14520 Armstrong Woods Road, Guerneville.

Refreshments will be served after the performance. Admission is \$15. Tickets available at River Reader, Guerneville. For information and reservations please call 869-3273 or 869-0516.

#### **Marin Yiddish Group**

*Vilst du reden oder heren ah bissel fun de Mame Loshen - Yiddish?* The Marin Yiddish Group meets at 2 p.m. on the second Sunday of each month at the Osher Marin JCC. The next meeting is on Sunday, December 14. All are welcome regardless of Yiddish speaking skills. For further information and future meeting dates, call Alan Smith, 415/472-1099.



For tickets and more information, please contact Sylvia Frain, Outreach. jcfc@gmail.com or Jewish Community Free Clinic, 490 City Center Drive, Rohnert Park, CA 94928; 585-7780

#### JEWISH COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Hadassah	Rose Ann Premi, 537-9208
Hillel	DAVID RUBINSTEIN, 795-5464
Jewish Community Federation	KIRSTEN MILLER, 568-6207
JNF-Trees in Israel	Shevi Posman, 292-7438
Jewish Community Free Clinic	Donna Waldman, 585-7780
Jewish Community Info & Referral	JUDY MUSANTE, 877/777-5247
Jewish Community Relations Council	SUZAN BERNS, 415/957-1551
Jewish Family & Children's Services	DIANA KLEIN, 571-8131
Jewish Community Center, Sonoma County	Beth Goodman, 528-4222
(all area codes are 707 unless indicated otherwi	se)

# Oakland Kosher Foods is open again for business!

After a devastating fire this summer that closed the store, Oakland Kosher Foods and Deli at 3419 Lakeshore Avenue, Oakland, (510) 839-0177 is open again for business.

#### Wine Country Mah Jongg Classic

Sunday, January 25, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m, call Lisa Isaac, 591-3911 for more information. Event at Congregation Shomrei Torah.

#### **Religious School mitzvah project**

The 3rd & 4th grade students in Pnina Loeb's Religious School class are collecting the following items for the Transitional Housing Project:

- hygiene items
- towels
- books
- adult socks

Donations can be brought to room 14. The students appreciate your help and generosity.

Thank







We are the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades who need your help for our tzadakah project. We are collecting these things through the middle of May:

hygiene items,

towels,

children's and adult books, adult socks.

These things will be donated to the Transitional Housing Project which helps previously homeless people get their life back in order. Please bring the items to room 14 or the main office. Everyone can donate!

Thank you for your donations,

Room 14

Chloe Nicholas Danie Justin Henry Jogh

Wine Country Kosher

...still trendy after 3000 years

# **Modern • Gourmet • Kosher**

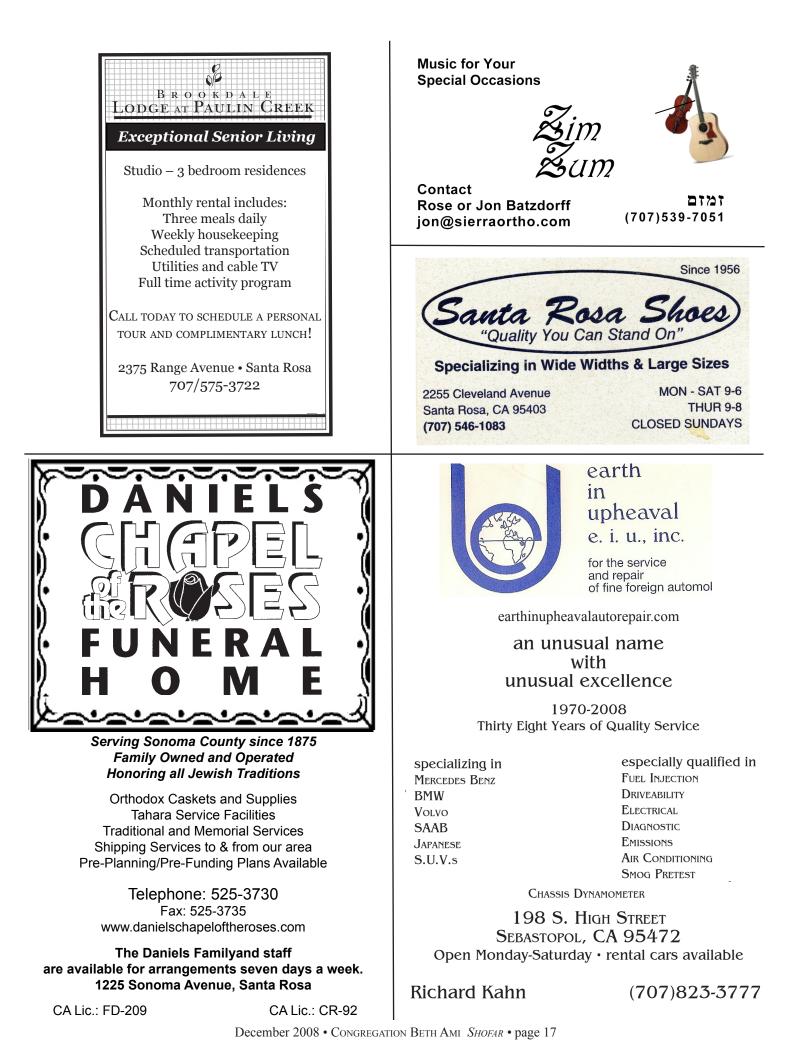
- Flavors of the Wine Country
  - International Jewish Cuisine

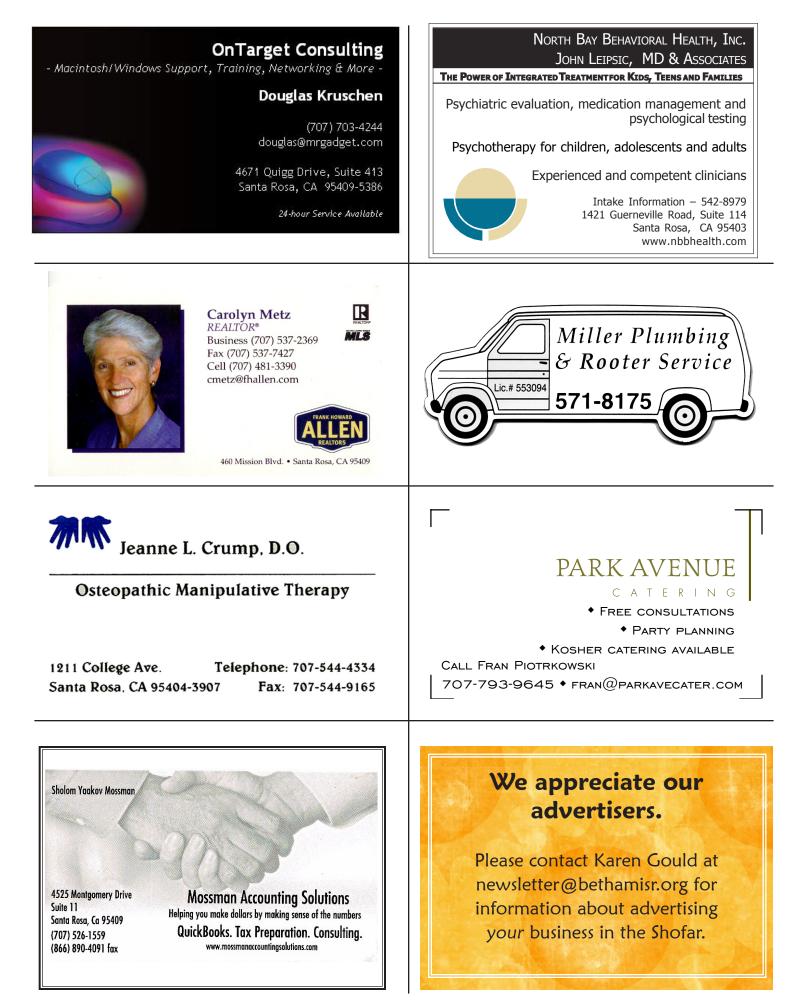
Andrea Nett 707/206-8686

# CATERING

We specialize in B'nei Mitzvah winecountrykosher@sbcglobal.net







# **CONGREGATION BETH AMI RSVP EVENT FORM**

Monthly

Family

Shabbat

Dinner

Please join us each

month for Shabbat dinner, followed by a

Family Service and Live Music by Zim

Zum with Israeli Folk

Dancing!

Shabbat

of the Month

### SHABBAT DINNER

Friday, December 5, 6:00 p.m. Adult: \$14 #\_\_\_\_@ \$14=\_\_\_\_\_ Youth: \$7 # @ \$7= Total enclosed for this event:



# **PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

Sunday, December 7, 9:00 a.m. Adult: \$12 #\_\_\_\_@ \$14=\_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_@ \$7=\_\_\_\_\_ Youth: \$9 Total enclosed for this event:

# **CHANUKAH PARTY**

Thursday, December 18, 6 p.m.  $\square$ Adult: \$15 #\_\_\_\_@ \$15=\_\_\_\_\_ #\_\_\_\_@ \$9=\_\_\_\_ Youth: \$9 Family price not to exceed \$45. Total enclosed for this event:



I/We would like to make contribution to the following event: for someone who would otherwise be unable to attend in the amount of \$

Names of all attendees:

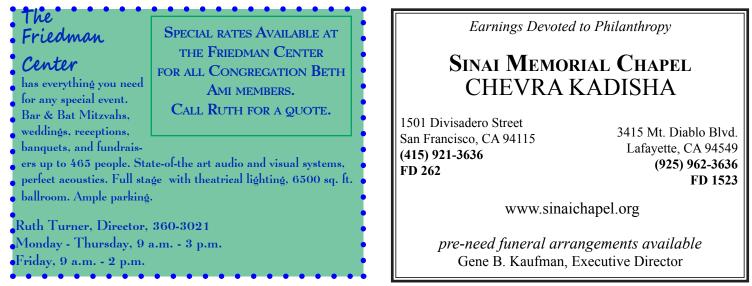
Phone:

Mastercard or Visa #

Expiration Date:\_\_\_\_\_

Mail, fax or bring this form with payment to:

Congregation Beth Ami • 4676 Mayette Avenue • Santa Rosa, CA • 95405 • Phone: 360-3000 • Fax: 360-3003





Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 185 Santa Rosa, CA

#### ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

# Schedule of Services for December

Friday Evening, December 5 (Candle Lighting 4:32 pm) 6:00 pm Shabbat Dinner 7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

Saturday, December 6 • 9 Kislev 9:30 am Shabbat Vayetze Services Potluck luncheon following service (Saturday Havdalah: 5:32 pm)

Friday Evening, December 12 7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services (Candle Lighting 4:33 pm)

Saturday, December 13 • 16 Kislev 9:30 am Shabbat Vayishlach Services Natasha Nett, daughter of Andrea and Stephen Nett will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah Hosted kiddush luncheon following service (Saturday Havdalah: 5:33 pm) Friday Evening, December 19 (Candle Lighting: 4:35 pm) 7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

Saturday, December 20 • 23 Kislev 9:30 am Shabbat Vayeshev Services 10:00 am Tot Shabbat Potluck luncheon following services (Saturday Havdalah 5:35 pm)

Friday Evening, December 26 (Candle Lighting: 4:39 pm) 7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

Saturday, December 27 • 30 Kislev 9:30 am Shabbat Miketz Services Potluck lunch following services (Saturday Havdalah 5:39 pm)